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THE

# TROOP

OF

## Non-Swearing Parsons,

OR A

# DIALOGUE

BETWIXT

A. B. C. D. E. &c.

**A.** Well met Brethren, what do ye think of our old Doctrine that the Church ought to make use of no Weapons but Prayers and Tears.

**B.** That was good enough Doctrine when our Church was uppermozt, for we did not care that our Adversaries should gore our Consecrated Lungs with weapons of Steel, but now the case is altered, and I am clearly

of that Popes mind, who throwing the Keys into the Tyber, said if St. Peters Keys would not do, St. Pauls Sword should.

**C.** Brother *B.* has answer'd very well and by *G.* (for tho we cannot Swear to King *William* its no sin to swear by Heaven) I am for following a more Modren pattern then that mentioned just now, and think we must make use both of *Hugh-Peters*s Keys and *Paul Hobson*s Sword.

A

D. A

D. A lucky hit I faith, for you know our Colonel is a Brewer, *Peters's Keys* will let us in to the strong Beer Cellar, and if by Chance some Grains should happen to stick in our teeth, *Paul Hobson's Sword* will serve to pick them out.

E. Come round with the Glass, I perceive you are a Company of Jolly fellows, and after I have drunk two or three Bumpers, I shall begin to grow witty too.

Sn. Come to't then Gentlemen, Let's first drink Damnation to the Prince of *Orange*, and then wee'l consider which way to improve both the Keys and the Sword to *K. James's* advantage, for you know the sense which a Pope put upon the saying of the Apostle, here are two Swords, viz. that Churchmen have a right to the Temporal as well as the Spiritual Sword.

A. My Benefice is my Estate, and seeing all men think it lawful to fight for their Estates, it cannot be unlawful for me to fight for my Benefice.

B. By my Faith Brother you're in the Right on't; but I am of opinion we may do the King more service in our Ecclesiastical Capacity, than by the Temporal Sword, tho we will do all that we can with that too, but people have conceived an unlucky Opinion of us that we are more for Women and Wine than for War.

C. Pray lets be serious: our Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel are appointed, and I understand that we are to be the Lieutenant Colonels own Troop, so that there's no need of a Captain, and therefore as we are Clergymen, it's but decent that we should in the next place make Choice of a Chaplain; for we must take care to keep up the Churches Plea of precedency, seeing this is but a Temporary Capacity wherein we are now to Act.

D. I am altogether of your mind, and therefore I give my vote for Brother Sn. from whom I have often heard that worthy Proposition, *that it was no more sin to kill the Prince and Princes of Orange than to kill a Cat or a Dog*, which by my Conscience I think is the only proper Sub-

ject to be insisted on at this time; and I doubt not but we have Zeal and Learning enough to defend it.

E. Spoke like an Oracle by my Soul, but I am for imitation of the Monky who made use of the Cats foot to pull the Nutts out of the Fire. We are the fittest persons in the World to advance that Doctrine, but let's perswade some Laymen to put it in Execution.

S. Upon my Conscience Brethren its a good overture, and though I think its a very honourable work, and indeed an impeachment upon the Courage of the *Church of England*, that we cannot afford a *Clement* and *Ravilac* as well as the Church of *Rome*; yet I think it best that the Laity be put upon the Work.

A. Then we are all agreed; but Brethren, you know that Laymen love their Lives as well as we Clergymen, and therefore we must think of proper Arguments to perswade them to such a dangerous undertaking.

S. Why Gentlemen, let me alone for that, you have done me the Honour to Vote me your Chaplain with one Consent, and I'll Swear to you (though I scorn to do so much to King *William*) that I will follow the directions of my Patrons, and Preach such Doctrine as they command me.

C. By Heaven its spoke like an honest man, we are agreed on the Subject; but pray Brother S. lets here what Arguments you will insist upon to enforce your Doctrine so as to have it put in practice.

S. Gentlemen I have Topicks at hand both from Politicks and Divinity. You know that Politicians say that it is lawful to kill *Tyrannum sine Titulo*, i.e. a Tyrant who has no title to the Crown, which you know hits the point exactly, for the Prince of *Orange* having Usurpt the Crown is a Tyrant, ergo. Then as to Divinity you know that the breach of the 5th Command is threatned with a short life. You know the Prince of *Orange* hath broken the fifth Command, and therefore deserves to be cut off in the midst of his days.

D. Un-



D. Unanswerable Arguments by G. but you know that the *Williamites* argue in defence of the present Government from our antient Constitutions, alledge that the Majority of the Church of *England* are against us, and that we do but usurp the name of the Church, and that the Parliament who are the best judges of our Laws have declared the Prince of *Orange* to be our Lawful and Rightful Sovereign, and you know that these Arguments are very Popular, therefore you must be arm'd *cap-a-pee* against them.

S. In faith Gentlemen, we must here act the part of cunning Sophisters, for we can no more abide the dint of those Arguments than the Devil can resist the sign of the Cross; but you know that a certain Pope and Cardinal discoursing together about the Christian Religion, said, *Multum nobis Lucrerit hac fabula Christi. i. e.* This story of Christ makes our Pot to Boil. And therefore though the devil a word of Truth there be in it, we must harp upon the old Theme of a Divine Right of Lineal Succession; the necessity of believing the Doctrine of Passive Obedience, on pain of Damnation, and the obligation of the subscription of us Clergymen that it was unlawful to resist the King, or any having his Commission on any pretence whatsoever, which we declared to be our opinion without Equivocation or Mental Reservation.

D. A prudent Resolve in faith, but you know Brother, that the complying Divines of our Church, say that all that is meant of a King in possession, and governing according to Law, but not of a King who like the foolish bird that first bestrays his own Nest, and runs then away and leaves it, or of one who declares he will not Govern according to Law.

S. True Sir, but at the same time the people are not capable of understanding and distinction, therefore its none of our part to take any notice of these niceties; but charge them with plain matter of Fact, and tell the World that the Church of

*England* took the Doctrine of Passive Obedience for her Characteristick, and would not allow such Interpretations as those to Dissenters formerly, and that their making use of the same distinctions themselves which they exclaimed against as Seditious in other Men, argues them to be gross Hipocrites, and Deceivers, and you know Brother: That according to the Jesuits Maxim, and in faith we must follow their Methods, now that we are engaged in their Interests, *Calumniare audacter aliquod habebit*, Let's throw Dirt Briskly, and some will certainly stick.

A. In conscience Brother S. you deserve the Throne of *Canterbury*, and shall have my Vote to be made Patriarch of our Church, upon King *James's* Restoration: In the mean time take a little advice. We cannot appoint you a better Subject than that already agreed upon, and for Commentaries to give light to the Text there's none that are comparable to *L'Stranges Observators*. And therefore we must imitate his Example, and indeavour to possess our Brethren the complying Clergy with an opinion, that the present Revolution is *41* re-acted; That though we be the first struck at, it will come to their turn at last; That the Fanaticks and Republicans will certainly overturn their Constitution, and through our sides wound Monarchy and Episcopacy under the fifth Rib, which will make them more favourable to us, and engage them to use their Interest both in Court and Parliament, that we be not too much run down: but now that I have mentioned *41* we must take care to clap our Thumbs on the *Irish Rebellion*, and in all company make it our business to infuse this Notion into the people, that we have found much uprightness and fair dealing amongst *Roman-Catholicks*, for the Religion of our King is the great bugbear among the Common People, we must make frequent use of King *James* the Firsts Authority, who said that if the Church of *Rome* would leave their King killing Doctrine, and some other things he would

meet them half way, and we must also insist upon the opinion of the Blessed Martyr Bishop *Laud*, that a reconciliation with *Rome*, is neither impracticable nor unprofitable; and seeing most of the Church of *England* have a great veneration for the glorious Martyr King *Charles* the I. we must urge his practise of writing to the Pope, and calling him Holy Father, and recommend our own charitable opinion of the Papists, by the large Concession which that most Excellent Prince did grant in their favour, and I would enjoin it to all of you as the best Topick in the world to bring the present Government in disgrace, to make harangues on all occasions, to demonstrate how little the difference is betwixt dethroning and beheading a King.

*B.* An admirable Discourse; I shall also beg leave of the Company to contribute my small Mite, and that is, to insinuate to our Brethren, the Complying Clergy, the Necessity of insisting upon the Horrid Sin of Subjects taking up Arms against their Sovereigns, and that they take care to keep that Principle alive, by rubbing it up every 30th of *January*, according to the laudable Example of *Dr. Birch*, for which we may, perhaps, get them the thanks of the House, by the procurement of our Friends, before the Members be half met together: and there can be nothing in the World more serviceable to our Cause, than by the Interest of our Friends at Court, to represent the damn'd Whigs, to the present Government, as Enemies to Monarchy, and the Prerogative, and to get as many of our own Friends into Places of Power and Trust as we can; nay, and to crowd all the Publick Offices of the Kingdom with *Jacobites*, who shall have a Dispensation to take the Oaths, Sign Associations, and abjure King *James*, that they may the better be able to do him Service; and by this means, we shall keep these Rogues, the *Whigs*, from doing us any considerable hurt, and make the Present Government destroy it self.

*C.* By Heav'n's, Gentlemen, *Achitophel* himself could not have given better Counsel; but give me leave also to put in my Word. We must likewise take care, by the Interest of our Friends, to have those Men, who are most active against *K. James*, represented to the present Government as dangerous persons, who affect popularity; and especially, if they have done any thing remarkable against us, either by *Sea* or *Land*, to find some plausible pretext for turning them out of their places, and getting our own Friends, or, at least, those who will not be active against us, into the Chief Posts of Court, Camp, and Fleet, which if we can effect, we shall certainly undermine the Prince of *Orange*. And one thing in particular we must take care of, and that is, to have some of our own Gang in all the Publick Offices, especially those which can furnish us with Intelligence of the Designs of the Court, the Stations of Ships, the coming in or going out of Fleets, that notice may be given accordingly to our Friends the French, who will thereby regulate their own Measures; and special Care must be taken to plant some of our Party in all the Letter-Offices, that by this means we may intercept Letters, and make our selves Masters of Dispatches.

*D.* One thing, Gentlemen, I perceive is still omitted, viz. That endeavours must be us'd to prevent the Repeal of the Sacramental Test, for if once the Zealots get into Places of Power and Trust, under this Government to which they are thoroughly well affected, because it is settled on a foundation agreeable to their own principles, we may bid farewell to our hopes for ever.

*S.* We have hitherto described the part of Politicians and Chaplains, it's now high time to lay down Methods for Action; but the time is elapsed, and therefore we must Adjourn that to the next Consult. And, in the mean time, let every one do his utmost to engage as many as he can in the Common Design, and Report their diligence at next Meeting.



## The Second Consult.

**A.** Gentlemen, since our last, I have sent out several Emissaries to create Enemies to the present Government, by insisting upon the *heaviness and frequency of our Taxes, the decay of our Trade, and of its being undermin'd by the Scotch East-India Company, and the Intrigues of the Dutch,* which, I doubt not, will have a very good effect in the succeeding Sessions of Parliament.

**B.** Sir, you have acted your part very well, and I am sure I have not been wanting in mine, for I have employed others to possess the Country with an Opinion, That the Prince of Orange is *no Friend to the Church of England,* and suffers our Brethren to be *grievously persecuted in Scotland;* and, that he not only *encourages the Dutch to undermine us in our Trade abroad, but designs to give them the Patrimony of the Crown, and all our Estates at Home,* which I do also perswade my self, will have a very good operation against next Parliament.

**C.** Brethren, we are all agreed that you have done excellently well, but I am sure that I have done more than any of you, and that is, *by engaging F---son on our side;* you know that his Pen is tip'd with Gall, and he hath been so long vers'd in Libelling Princes and Governments, and hath so good a knack at *forging of Villanous Stories, as to the personal faults of Monarchs, and mustering up whole Battalions and Squadrons of Maladministrations,* that by gaining of him, we have gain'd two whole Legions of Devils to our Service; nor do I know any Man fitter to undertake *L'Estrange's Province,* now that he is *superannuated.*

**D.** Hang me, Brother, but you have out-done us all, for that Man's able to write Satyrs enough to make the Devil hang himself; and if Colonel *Slaughter* will quit his Pretensions, *F---son* shall have my Vote to be Commander in Chief of all the Non-Jurant Parsons.

**E.** Enough, enough, Gentlemen; I will tell you what I have done for my part, I have been Father Confessor to all the *Wh---s, Bauds, Pimps, and Procurers* in Town, and have engaged them on pain of a ten fold Penance, and *being denyed the benefit of Absolution,* when they come to breath out their last, not to grant any of their favours to the Rogues untill they give them their Corporal Oaths to joyn King *James* at his Landing, and I am sure they will make up a very handsome Army, and discharge such *Vollies of Oaths as will make all the Fanaticks run for't:* For you know Gentlemen, that that *Tribe will all of em take Arms to assist the Prince of Orange, in case of a French Invasion.*

**F.** Gentlemen, every one of you exceeds another, and I will acquaint you with a very important piece of Service that I have done. I have made it my business to *settle a correspondence with all the Goldsmiths for broad Money,* and have set so many of the Abdicated Officers and Clergymen and Poor Jacobetes at work to *clip and Coyn,* that I am sure we shall have a hurricane upon the present Government in a little time for want of Money to Trade with.

**G.** In faith Sirs, you are a company of brave fellows, I'll also give you an account of my

diligence,

diligence, I have made it my business to engage E. S. C. M. C. G. and the rest of the Saxons to Libel the Government against the next Parliament, to endeavour a rupture betwixt the two Nations, about the Scotch E. India Company, and their damn'd Presbytery, and to deprive the Prince of Orange of the privilege of rewarding his Dutch Friends, who have served him faithfully, That I doubt not of your hearing of such a Libel of Maleadministrations, as will drwon all the noise of the Conventions claim of Right, and make the Nation wish they had King James again.

H. These are all good preparatives, and now Gentlemen, I beg leave to acquaint you with my performances. I made it my business to acquaint our Brethren the Priests and Jesuits, that our Party was in a good forwardness, and therefore desired that they might take care to have the Roman-catholicks ready against King James Landed: They promised to act their part with the utmost diligence, and commended our Zeal for the Cause of God and true Religion. And I must tell you Gentlemen, that our firm adherence to King James hath created a good opinion of us in those of the Church of Rome: You know that they did formerly publish it to the world as their opinion, that all Protestants would be damned, but now they are of another mind, and don't stick to say that those who encourage a Fr. Invasion, and engage in the design to cut off the Prince of Oranges will certainly merit Heaven by it; and they are so Ingenious as to own that our Zeal exceeds theirs by much, for they would scarcely be concerned in a design to procure an Invasion by a Protestant Prince and Army upon a Roman-catholick Kingdom, or to cut off a Catholick Prince, to make way for one of the Protestant Communion.

S. They're much in the Right on't, but if we be true Sons of the Church of England we must stand fast to our Doctrine of Non-resistance and passive Obedience: And seeing the Prince of Orange was set upon the Throne, contrary to that distinguishing

Doctrine of our Church, we are obliged on pain of Damnation to endeavour his overthrow, otherwise we proclaim our selves Dissemblers and Hypocrites to all the world, in having preacht up a Doctrine for 30 years and upwards, as necessary to be believed in order to Salvation, if now we turn our backs upon it, on any consideration whatsoever, for in short if that fall our Church must fall with it, it being truly tho maliciously observed that we have nothing but that which we can call our own, for our Doctrine is Calvines, and our Discipline the Popes, and to be plain with you Gentlemen, there is no Prince that deserves to wear a Crown but such as parronize this Doctrine, and our Church may well be called Royallists, for never was there a Society upon Earth, who did so much preach up an absolute power as we have done; and seeing there's no Monarch in the World so fit to put our Doctrine in practice as Lewis XIV. or that knows how to Reign with an absolute sway so well as himself, its fit that we should hazard our all, to make him Universal Monarch, and head of our passive Obedience Church. And Gentlemen, to the eternal praise of that Immortal King be it spoken, he hath given a demonstration of his Wisdom, in chusing the Great Turk for his Allie, who is such an excellent practitioner of our Churches Doctrine, that if any of his Subjects dare to mutter against it, he stops their Clamour for ever, by a Non-resistance bow String. And Gentlemen, we have prepared so many of our Disciples to cut off the Prince of Orange, that its next to impossible they should miscarry in the attempt, or if it should be their misfortune so to do, we have fortified them so well by a large dose of Non-resistance and passive Obedience Doctrine, that we are sure they dare embrace the Gallows, and bid Hell it self defiance, and by the virtue of Absolution break open the Gates of Heaven, and force their entrance if St. Peter be surly and refuse to open to them with his Keys.

A. Gentle-



A. Gentlemen, its policy to provide against all Events, and therefore I will tell you what I have done for our better security in case our Plot should miscarry now, as by a damnd misfortune all our designs against this Government have hitherto prov'd Abortive. I have made interest with the Saxons for an Act to Regulate Trials in cases of high Treason, the design of which the Blind whigs shall not perceive, except some unlucky discovery makes it plain to them afterwards; and I am sure of their Concurrence with it now, because they smarted so much themselves, for the Want of such an act formerly, and by this means we shall have an opportunity to imploy some *bold Prating Lawyers*, who shall Wrangle the Judges and Juries out of their fences, and make the Trials of our friends tedious and Irksome, at least if they can't render their Conviction impossible; and if it should come to the Worst that five or 6. of our party should make their *Exit* on the *Triple-Tree*, we must put on a firm Resolution to declare they die Martyrs for the *Cause of God and Religion*, and imploy the Utmost of our Interest with our Brethren, who Comply with the present Government to put an early stop to the prosecution, Lest it should give the Republicans and

Fanaticks too much occasion to triumph, and by exposing the Doctrine that hath led us to such practises; wound the Church so as she shall never be able to recover it.


C. An incomparable advice, that, that's the *Balsam* which hath so succesfully cured our Wounds hitherto, and therefore we do all of us give it our *Probatum est*.

S. Gentlemen, I shall conclude this Consult with a pathetick Exhortation, that you would prepare your selves and your Friends to *cut off the Prince of Orange with all possible speed*, he is *the last of his cursed family*, who have always opposed the *Doctrine of Passive Obedience*, and if we were once rid of him, the most Christian King and the most Mahometan Sultan would with the Sword in one hand, and this our *New Alcoran* in the other, oblige the Universe to swallow our Doctrine, which would make ours the Triumphant Church, then should we proclaim it from the Steeples with Empire. *Hillah la hillah Mahomet resoul allah*, *Passive Obedience is the cause of God and true Religion*, and *Mahomet is the Great Prophet and Apostle of this Doctrine*, whose adorers we shall remain for ever, if he allow us *Wine* in as great quantity as he does *Women*.


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F I N I S.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

 A Letter to the *Three Absolvers*, Mr. Cook, Mr. Collier and Mr. Snatt. Being Reflections on the Papers delivered by Sir John Friend and Sir William Parkins, to the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, at Tyburn, the place of Execution, April 3. 1696. Which said P A P E R S are Printed at length, and answered Paragraph by Paragraph. Price 6d.

1696.

 An Answer to Mr Colliers Defence of his Absolution of Sir William Parkins at the place of Execution. Which Defence is Printed at length, and considered Paragraph by Paragraph. Price 2 d.

 The Parable of the Three Jackdaws, &c.

All three Printed for R. Baldwin.

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L O N D O N,

For Richard Baldwin, near the Oxford Arms in  
Warwick-Lane. 1696. Price 2 d.